



MEETING MINUTES / 21 AUGUST 2018

ATTENDANCE:

Present: Farley, Showell, Armbruster, Bradley, Johnson, Lardizzone, Magner, McMullen, Newstadt, Seppala, and Stewart **73.3%**

Excused: Baldwin, Newman, Lopez, Sarg

Guests: Vince Kane – telephone (Wilmington VAMC), Jessica Finan (Home of the Brave), Liz Byers-Jiron, Pat Cerchio (First State Women Warriors)

CHAIRMAN'S OPENING REMARKS:

Requested moment of silence

- For Afghanistan deployers

Will require leadership nominating committee members

The division commission continued to make progress (e.g. homelessness plan and expanded commission awareness)

MEETING MINUTES:

Approved, motions: McMullen and Johnson

ADMINISTRATIVE REMARKS:

Wilmington VAMC – Vince Kane, Director (telephone)

Medical center is working to promote use to non-users

- Promoting through town halls and resource fairs

- Mark Taylor is spreading the message

Contract office will be soliciting for Dover site expansion

- Ground breaking projected by end of calendar year

- 20K square feet vision

Recruiting for chief of staff position

Working improvements on quality and safety issues

Seeking another outreach specialist for Sussex County

Increasing technology usage during outreach ventures

(Bradley) When a 100% service connected veteran passes away, is anything covered, for their survivors, after death?

Check with the benefits office for specifics, each case is different

(Newstadt) Has an orthopedist been hired?

Yes Dr. Jerry Boady was recently hired

Working other partnerships, in Philadelphia, for surgeries

- Providers perform surgeries at the Wilmington VAMC

Delaware Veterans Home (DVH) – Bill Peterson, Director:

Not present

Home of the Brave, Director Jessica Finan:

13 Males, 2 openings

4 Females, 4 openings

Seeking house monitor (employment) at male facility, also drives residents to appointments

Board of Directors approved Operations Supervisor position (monitors houses and grounds)

- Hired J.R. Popio

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Liz Byers-Jiron

Stand Down is 21 September

- Next planning meeting, 23 August / 1400 at Schutte Park

- 76 organizations are signed up

- Opening ceremony moved to 0930

Visited Wilmington VAMC Chief of Dentistry with Commissioner (dentist) Sarg

- Not flexible with seeing non-100% service connected veterans

- Dental clinic is moving to seventh floor

Pat Cerchio

Womens' monument dedication is 3 November

- Parade prior to dedication

- Women veteran license plates will be available

- - Must have DD 214 and vehicle registration

- Books will be available

- Oral histories sign-up are being accepted until the end of August

Inaugural National Women's Coalition is scheduled for 7 September / Atlanta, GA

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Bear Veterans Memorial Cemetery, Commissioner Armbruster:

Interments – 86

Millsboro Veterans Memorial Cemetery, Commissioner Bradley:

Interments – 30

Deshields was hired as a Casual Seasonal Conservation Tech

Health and Human Services, Commissioner Sarg:

Nothing to report

Legislative Affairs, Commissioner McMullen:

As previously mentioned, no commission legislative recommendations were considered for legislation

As previously mentioned, Grant and Aide was restored to applicable Veteran Service Organizations

(Farley) Applicable Veteran Service Organizations need to submit DVTF contribution information to

Representative Jaques

ORGANIZATIONAL REPORTS:

Commissioner McMullen (Air Force Sergeants Association - AFSA)

16 Aug: Attended chapter meeting

- Briefed DCVA activities and legislative initiatives

- Retiree Day information was briefed

- Recent fundraisers were successful

- Continuing Veterans Home visits

- Committee is working base POW/MIA ceremony

- Delegates were elected for national conference

12 Jul: Participated in organization's Greene Turtle fundraiser
8 Aug: Attended Wilmington VAMC Workshop
9 Aug: Represented AFSA at internment service for AFSA Life member MSgt Navitsy
25 – 29 Aug: Professional Airmen's Conference, San Antonio

Commissioner Armbruster (American Legion - AL)
8 Aug: Attended USS Delaware Pre-Commissioning Ceremony in Wilmington
American Legion Baseball, Post 1 is in the Worlds Series in Shelby, North Carolina
24 – 30 Aug: National Convention, Minneapolis, MN
28 – 30 Sep: Oratorical Contest, Indianapolis

Commissioner Bradley (American Veterans - AmVets)
7 – 11 Aug: National Convention, Orlando
11 Aug: Ladies Auxiliary sponsored a brick at the Home of the Brave
16 Aug: Attended Delaware Joining Forces meeting
Donated \$10K to Indian River Fire and Rescue
Donated \$500.00 to Stand Down
28 Sep: Post 2 Golf Outing, Mulligans Pointe Golf Course, Georgetown

Commissioner Lardizzone (Disabled American Veterans - DAV)
12 – 18 Jul: Attended National Convention, Reno
24 Jul: Attended Friends of Delaware Veterans Home meeting
2 – 3 Aug: Picked up 2019 Ford Flex from DAV Headquarters, Kentucky
5 Aug: Attended COL Showell's retirement events
9 Aug: Attended Womens' Monument meeting
16 Aug: Attended Delaware Veterans Home staff briefing on nursing, food service, and new structural additions
Attempting to raise \$500K for Delaware Veterans Home dental suite
Will transport Delaware Veterans Home female veterans in DAV vehicle during 3 November veterans' parade

Commissioner Johnson (Korean War Veterans Association - KWVA)
19 Jul: Met Hanna Kim, South Korean at Korean War monument, Delaware Park
- Part of raising awareness for Korean War veterans and their families
11 Sep: CHEER's program "Military Honor and Patriot Day" at Georgetown location
Met with Jeff Brown, Dover Post about Korean War MIA's and remains being returned
Attended Chapter 2 meeting in Wilmington
Attended COL Showell retirement events
Attended USS Delaware future commissioning celebration

Commissioner Farley (Marine Corps League - MCL)
Nothing to report

Commissioner Sarg (Military Officers Association of America - MOAA)
17 Jul: Attended female veterans license plate bill signing
19 Jul: Attended Delaware Joining Forces Meeting, Georgetown
23 Jul: Panel Member, Delaware Veterans Home job interviews
23 Jul: Panel Member, Delaware Veterans Home Admissions meeting
24 Jul: Attended Friends of Delaware Veterans Home dental suite planning meeting
1 Aug: Attended Policy Development Retreat through Employment First Oversight Commission

3 Aug: Met with Dr. Carol Stanton, Director of Dental Treatment, Wilmington VAMC

8 Aug: Attended Wilmington VAMC Town Hall, Dover

20 Aug: Attended Congressional Veterans Job Fair, Dover

Commissioner Magner (Military Order of the Purple Heart - MOPH)

30 Jul – 3 Aug: National convention, Spokane, WA

Two chapters are on summer break

National Convention members elected an individual from the floor to become the new National Commander

National Service Officer position at the Wilmington VAMC was eliminated due to funding

Commissioner Newman (Veterans of Foreign Wars - VFW)

Nothing to report

Commissioner Baldwin (Vietnam Veterans of America – VVA) excused but provided notes

Working with General Vavala and Dr. Andrzejewski to create veterans' education resource center

23 - 27 Jul: Presented a "Principals Perspective on JROTC" seminar in San Diego to 160 retiring Navy and Marine Corps senior enlisted and senior officers

Commissioner Showell (At Large, affiliated with Delaware National Guard)

Appointed Delaware Tech, Owens Campus, Veterans and Service Member Representative

24 – 27 Aug: National Guard Association of the United States Conference, New Orleans

29 Aug: Delaware National Guard leadership will participate in Green Bill signing

6 Sep: Run White and Blue 5K, Delaware Tech Owen Campus

18 Sep / 1800: Chicks for Charity, supporting the DVTF, fundraising dinner, Irish Mikes, Lewes

Commissioner Newstadt (At Large, affiliated with Jewish War Veterans)

8 Aug: Attended USS Delaware Pre-Commissioning Ceremony, Wilmington

Concerned about the following Wilmington VAMC items

- Orthopedic care

- Parking to include more spaces for disabled members

- Increasing women's care

Comments on Chair / Vice Chair elections

- After nominations are announced, please forward your status if you are interested in the position, so we can ensure legitimate nominees

8 – 21 Sep: Out of town (state)

Commissioner Seppala (At Large, affiliated with Military Order of World Wars)

25 Jul: Attended Wilmington VAMC Town Hall

8 Aug: Attended USS Delaware Pre-Commissioning Ceremony, Wilmington

Commissioner Lopez (At Large, affiliated with Delaware Veterans)

Nothing to report

Commissioner Stewart (At Large, affiliated with student veterans associations)

Nothing to report

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S COMMENTS:

DVTF: Requests 15, Granted 9 (60%), Awarded \$9,030.79 and Balance \$66,700.00

TERM COMPLETION:

Lardizzone: 21 October 2018

EVENTS:

29 Aug / 1000: Green Bill Signing, Carvel State Office Building, Wilmington

7 Sep / 1000 – 1400: Congressional Delegation Veterans Job Fair, Middletown Fire Hall, 27 W. Green Street, Middletown

11 Sep / 0900 – 1500: Veteran and Military Mental Health Summit, Rollins Center (Dover Downs), Dover

18 Sep / 1800: Chicks for Charity Fundraiser Dinner, Irish Mike's, 213 Anglers Road, Lewes

21 Sep / 0900 – 1400: Delaware Veterans Stand Down, Schutte Park, Dover

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Commissioner Job Descriptions (CLOSED)

September meeting moved to Wednesday, 19 September / 1000 (CLOSED)

- To accommodate Kent County Economic Summit attendance (18 September)

NEW BUSINESS:

Nomination Committee formation

- Volunteers: Newstadt, Stewart, Magner, McMullen, and Seppala

Chair / Vice Chair Elections are in September

ITEMS FOR THE GOOD AND WELFARE OF THE ORGANIZATION:**SPECIAL SESSION:****NEXT MEETING:**

Wednesday, 19 September 2018 at 10:00 AM

LOCATION:

Delaware Commission of Veterans Affairs